

PRESS RELEASE

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TWO FROM VERNON COUNTY INDICTED ON FEDERAL DRUG CHARGES

Madison, Wisconsin -- Erik C. Peterson, United States Attorney for the Western District of Wisconsin, announced the unsealing of an indictment returned on April 23, 2008, by a federal grand jury sitting in Madison, charging Lyle I. Dank, 51, and Marilyn K. Seidel, 40, both of Vernon County, Wisconsin.

Dank and Seidel are charged with conspiring to distribute cocaine and with distributing cocaine in January and February 2008. If convicted, the defendants face maximum penalties on each count of 20 years in prison and a \$1 million fine.

Both defendants appeared in U.S. District Court in Madison today and were arraigned on the indictment. Both entered not guilty pleas. U.S. Magistrate Judge Theresa Owens set trial for August 18, 2008, at 9:00 a.m., before Chief U.S. District Judge Barbara B. Crabb. Dank and Seidel were detained pending trial.

The charges against the defendants are the result of an investigation conducted by the Vernon County Sheriff's Department. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Timothy O'Shea.

You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

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